

customer service are big reasons why he was given this honor. Not only has he worked tirelessly in his professional life, but Alex has dedicated his time to organizations like the Des Moines Public Library Foundation board of directors, the Greater Des Moines Young Professionals Connection, and Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Central Iowa. His emphasis on civic duty is a true testament to his character.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Alex in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud him for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Alex on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2016 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

WELCOME ANNIBEL FRANCES
SCHUERFELD

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Deputy Staff Director for the House Armed Services Committee, Jenness Bergeron Simler and her husband, Gary Warren Schuerfeld, on the birth of their new baby girl, Annibel Frances "B.B." Schuerfeld who was born at 11:24 a.m. on Monday, June 29, 2015, at Palmetto Baptist Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina. She weighed eight pounds and two ounces and measured 20 and 1/2 inches long. I have no doubt her talented parents will be dedicated to her well-being and bright future.

I would also like to congratulate her brother, Taggart McRae Schuerfeld, and grandparents, Shellie Ann Kenna Simler of Tucson, Arizona, and Pierre Bergeron Simler of Litchfield, Connecticut. Congratulations to her entire family as they welcome their newest addition of pure pride and joy.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JERSEY BATTERED WOMEN'S SERVICE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Jersey Battered Women's Service located in Morristown, Morris County, New Jersey as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

The Jersey Battered Women's Service, or JBWS, began as a hotline for victims of domestic violence. However, after the murders of two callers by their husbands, the small group of female pioneers responsible for the original hotline recognized the dire need for a greater service for domestic violence victims in New Jersey. In 1978, the Jersey Battered Women's Shelter opened its doors to those requiring refuge from violence at home. Today, it operates

as a full-service, private, not-for-profit domestic violence agency.

The Jersey Battered Women's Service is a multi-faceted operation, focused not just on providing protection to survivors, but also on helping these individuals rebuild and restart their lives. JBWS is heavily involved in raising awareness for domestic violence, specifically through providing education services on the consequences of domestic violence and how it can be prevented. The organization is notable for its domestic violence advocacy efforts and its mission to improve the rights of survivors. The shelter aims to empower the women who seek its safety, transforming them from victims to survivors. Ultimately, the goal of the Jersey Battered Women's Service is to create a community culture that refuses to tolerate partner and family violence of any sort.

Alongside staff, the over 120 Jersey Battered Women's Service volunteers dedicate their time and energy to combating domestic violence. Services JBWS offers include legal assistance, victim services and shelter, counseling for friends and family members of survivors, batterer's intervention, child services and protection, and teen dating abuse protection and prevention services. These services, and the efforts of volunteers, have been crucial in helping survivors and their families rise above the abuse.

The 40th Anniversary of the Jersey Battered Women's Service is marked by the grand opening of the Morris Family Justice Center. This comprehensive center combines various organizations to provide counseling, protection, legal and immigration assistance, and children's services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, all conveniently in one location.

For forty years, the Jersey Battered Women's Shelter has provided protection and support for survivors of domestic violence. The organization has made incredible strides in increasing domestic violence awareness and strengthening education about relationship and familial violence. I commend the Jersey Battered Women's Service for the remarkable contributions they have made to New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring the Jersey Battered Women's Service as the organization celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

HONORING LAWANDA W. PARKS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mrs. LaWanda W. Parks, who served as the Executive Assistant to the Network Director of the South Central VA Health Care Network, an integrated system of 10 VA medical centers providing a full range of specialty, tertiary, mental health, and long term care in an eight-state region. As a member of the Network's Executive Leadership Team, Mrs. Parks was the Network's liaison to VA Central Office in Washington, DC, served as the Network Management Support Officer and provided oversight for VISN administrative operations.

Mrs. Parks joined the VA 17 years ago as an Administrative Resident at the New Orleans

VA Medical Center and has held positions of progressive responsibility at the local and National levels before returning to her home state of Mississippi as the Executive Assistant to the Network Director in 2007.

Mrs. Parks is a 2010 graduate of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Health Care Leadership Institute and a 2012 graduate of the VHA Executive Career Field program. She is a mentor for the Network's Advance Leadership Development Institute and has served on a number of national workgroups and committees. Mrs. Parks is also a member of the American College of Health Care Executives and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. From August 2010–October 2010, Mrs. Parks served as the interim Assistant Medical Center Director of the Birmingham, Alabama, VAMC.

A native of Magnolia, Mississippi, Mrs. Parks holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from Tougaloo College and a master's degree in Health Care Administration from the University of Alabama-Birmingham. She and her husband, Mr. Michael Parks have one son, Ezekiel.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. LaWanda W. Parks for her dedication to serving others.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DANIEL
"BUD" ALAN AYRES

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Daniel "Bud" Alan Ayres, 53, of Poland, OH who passed away on Wednesday March 30, 2016. Daniel was born on March 28, 1963 in Belleville, Illinois and was a veteran of the United States Army where he served in Korea and Washington, DC as a Military Police Officer.

Together with his family, and throughout his 11 year military career, Daniel was stationed in many locations throughout the U.S. and in Germany. After September 11, 2001, he joined Homeland Security as an Air Marshal.

To Daniel, there was no such thing as a stranger—only a friend that he had yet to meet. His passion for family, friendships, Texas style BBQ, Alabama & Patriots football, togetherness and fun, will live on in everyone who knew and loved him.

Daniel will be deeply missed by his family. He leaves behind his loving wife of 28 years, Kimberly Ann of Poland. They raised four children, Joshua Alan, Dustin Alan, Chance Alan, and Grace Ann. He leaves one brother, Steven (Linda) Ayres of Beeville, Texas; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Patsy and Ricky Smith of Austin, Texas; sister-in-law Sherri (David) Fossati of Houston, Texas; and a niece, nephew and many close friends, all of whom adored him.

Daniel will be greatly missed by his family and the Poland community. He has lived a long and prosperous life and will be remembered for his service.